

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 873 Building Designations

SPONSOR(S): Brandenburg

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 1636

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) Colleges & Universities Committee		Davis	Tilton
2) Education Appropriations Committee			
3) Education Council			
4)			
5)			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Current law does not permit a state building, road, bridge, park, recreation complex, or similar facility to be named after a living person unless the name designation is approved by law. Pursuant to this requirement, if a university wishes to name a particular building or facility after a living person, the designation must be approved by the Legislature.

The bill designates the new alumni center at Florida Atlantic University as the "Marleen and Harold Forkas Alumni Center" and directs Florida Atlantic University to erect suitable markers to reflect this designation.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

This bill does not appear to implicate any of the House Principles.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Section 267.062, F.S. provides that no state building, road, bridge, park, recreational complex, or similar facility can be named after a living person unless approved by law. Therefore, if a university wishes to name a particular building or facility after a living person, the designation must be approved by the Legislature.

A section-by-section analysis of the bill follows. The biographical information was provided by Florida Atlantic University.

Section 1: The bill designates the new alumni center at Florida Atlantic University as the "Marleen and Harold Forkas Alumni Center" and directs Florida Atlantic University to erect suitable markers.

Marleen Forkas was the first woman to graduate from the Fashion Institute of Technology's Management Engineering Division. She went on to build a 40-year career as a designer and manufacturer for leading fashion houses.

Harold Forkas began his career working in the office supply business before moving on to sales and management for the Coca-Cola Company. He later had the opportunity to explore entrepreneurship as a Midas Muffler franchisee; by 1988, he owned eight Midas Muffler dealerships.

Marleen and Harold Forkas have a strong philanthropic background. They are involved in several charitable organizations including the Boca Raton Community Hospital Foundation and the Boca Raton Museum of Art. Their involvement with Florida Atlantic University began in 1997 when the couple began attending performances at Florida Atlantic University's University Center. They became members of the University's Inner Circle of Football Founders, and were behind the university's efforts to establish a football team.

More recently, the couple has turned their philanthropic interests to the efforts of the Florida Atlantic University National Alumni Association, donating \$1 million for the construction of a permanent facility to house the association.

Section 2: The bill will take effect upon becoming law.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

This bill does not create, repeal, or amend any statutory sections. Please refer to EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES for a section-by-section analysis of the bill.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state revenues.

2. Expenditures:

Please see FISCAL COMMENTS.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local revenues.

2. Expenditures:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local expenditures.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

This bill does not appear to have a direct economic impact on the private sector.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

There will be an insignificant cost associated with the university erecting suitable markers for the name designation.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

This bill does not require a city or county to spend funds or to take any action requiring the expenditure of funds.

2. Other:

This bill does not appear to raise constitutional issues.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES